

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A fuel dispenser comprising a user interface allowing for the purchase of music at the fuel dispenser, said fuel dispenser adapted to download the music for ultimate playback in a vehicle and including a fuel delivery path for delivery of fuel to the vehicle.

5

2. The fuel dispenser of claim 1 wherein said fuel dispenser downloads the music directly to a memory unit associated with the vehicle.

10

3. The fuel dispenser of claim 2 wherein said fuel dispenser downloads the music over a radio frequency.

15

4. The fuel dispenser of claim 2 wherein the music is retrieved from a location remote from the fuel dispenser prior to downloading to the vehicle.

20

5. The fuel dispenser of claim 1 wherein said fuel dispenser downloads the music indirectly to a memory unit associated with the vehicle.

6. The fuel dispenser of claim 5 wherein said fuel dispenser downloads the music to a portable storage medium.

7. The fuel dispenser of claim 6 wherein said portable storage medium comprises a computer readable portable storage medium.

8. The fuel dispenser of claim 5 wherein said fuel dispenser downloads the music to a playback device associated with the vehicle.

5 9. The fuel dispenser of claim 1 wherein said fuel dispenser begins downloading the music during an associated fueling transaction.

10. The fuel dispenser of claim 9 wherein a remote retail terminal finishes downloading the music.

11. The fuel dispenser of claim 1 wherein said fuel dispenser instructs a remote retail terminal to download the music

12. A method of vending music through a fuel dispenser comprising accepting a consumer order at the fuel dispenser for music to be purchased; and downloading the music to the consumer for ultimate playback in a vehicle.

13. A computer readable medium comprising software configured to run on a fuel dispenser and further adapted to accept a consumer order at the fuel dispenser for music to be purchased and 20 download the music to the consumer for ultimate playback in a vehicle.

10
15
20
25

14. A music dispenser comprising a user interface enabling a consumer to purchase music therethrough, wherein the music is downloaded at the instigation of the music dispenser directly to an in-vehicle playback device for later playback.

5 15. A music dispenser comprising a user interface enabling a consumer to purchase music therethrough, wherein the music is downloaded at the instigation of the music dispenser to a consumer provided portable storage medium.

16. A music dispenser comprising a user interface enabling a consumer to purchase music therethrough, wherein the consumer may provide a playback device associated with the vehicle and the music dispenser downloads the music to the playback device.

17. A music dispenser comprising a user interface enabling a consumer to purchase music therethrough, said music dispenser configured to be positioned in a fueling environment.

18. The music dispenser of claim 17 wherein said music dispenser is associated with a fuel dispenser.

19. The music dispenser of claim 17 wherein said music dispenser is integrated into a fuel
20 dispenser.

20. The music dispenser of claim 17 wherein said music dispenser is associated with a car wash facility within the fueling environment.

21. The music dispenser of claim 17 wherein said music dispenser is associated with a quick serve restaurant within the fueling environment.

22. The music dispenser of claim 17 wherein said music dispenser is associated with a retail 5 terminal in a convenience store within the fueling environment.

23. A music dispenser comprising a user interface configured to enable a consumer to initiate a multistage music purchase wherein an order is initially placed at the music dispenser and at least some portion of the music is received from a retail terminal remotely positioned from the music dispenser.

24. The music dispenser of claim 23 wherein all the music purchased at the music dispenser is received from the retail terminal remotely positioned from the music dispenser.

25. A music dispenser associated with a fuel dispenser, said music dispenser comprising:
15 means for a consumer to purchase music, said music purchasing means associated with said fuel dispenser;

means for downloading said music to said music dispenser, said downloading means in communications with said purchasing means; and

20 means for transferring the music to the consumer for later playback in a vehicle, said transferring means communicating with said downloading means.

26. The music dispenser of claim 25 wherein said transferring means comprises means for transmitting the music to a device associated with the consumer for storage thereon.

27. A fueling environment comprising:

5 a) a plurality of fuel dispensers adapted to allow consumers to purchase fuel therefrom, said plurality of fuel dispensers positioned in a forecourt of the fueling environment;

 b) one or more retail terminals positioned in the forecourt of the fueling environment;

 c) a computer for storing one or more music files thereon;

 d) a music dispenser associated with one of said retail terminals and operatively connected to said computer; and

 e) wherein a consumer may purchase at least one of said one or more music files through the music dispenser.

28. The fueling environment of claim 26 wherein said music dispenser is integrated into one of said one or more retail sales terminals.

29. The fueling environment of claim 26 wherein said computer is remote from said fueling environment.

20 30. The fueling environment of claim 26 wherein said computer is located on a premises associated with the fueling environment.

31. The fueling environment of claim 29 wherein said computer is configured to communicate with a central server remote from said fueling environment.

32. The fueling environment of claim 26 wherein said music dispenser is integrated into one of 5 said plurality of fuel dispensers.

33. The fueling environment of claim 26 wherein said at least one of said one or more music files is broadcast to a receiver.

34. The fueling environment of claim 32 wherein said receiver is a vehicle receiver.

35. The fueling environment of claim 32 wherein said receiver is a portable receiver.

36. The fueling environment of claim 32 wherein a station antenna broadcasts to the receiver.

37. The fueling environment of claim 32 wherein said music dispenser broadcasts to the receiver.

38. The fueling environment of claim 26 wherein said at least one of said one or more music 20 files is downloaded from said music dispenser.

39. The fueling environment of claim 26 wherein said purchase is associated with a second retail transaction.

40. The fueling environment of claim 38 wherein said purchase is integrated into said second retail transaction.

5 41. The fueling environment of claim 26 further comprising a sales terminal operatively connected to said computer wherein a customer may purchase music at said sales terminal and receive said music at said music dispenser at a later time.

10 42. A method of vending music in a fueling environment, said method comprising:
providing a music dispenser in the fueling environment;
in response to a request from a consumer to purchase music at the music dispenser in the fueling environment, accessing a memory containing a plurality of music files; and
delivering at least a portion of said plurality of music files to the consumer.

15 43. A computer readable medium comprising software configured to operate on a music dispenser in a fueling environment, said software adapted to respond to a consumer request to purchase music by accessing memory containing a plurality of music files and delivering a requested selection to the consumer.

20 44. A system for retailing music in a fueling environment, said system comprising:

a) a central data storage facility including memory for storing music data files;
b) at least one fuel dispenser communicatively coupled to said central data storage facility;

c) a music transmission device associated with said at least one fuel dispenser, whereby music may be purchased by a consumer from the fuel dispenser and the music transmission device conveys the music to a device possessed by the consumer for playback.

5 45. A method of retailing music in a fueling environment, said method comprising:

- storing music in a central data storage facility within the fueling environment;
- accessing said central data storage facility from a fuel dispenser;
- selling at least a portion of the music stored within said central data storage facility to a consumer through the fuel dispenser; and
- conveying to the consumer said at least a portion of the music.

46. A fuel dispensing system for facilitating the purchase of music for playback in a vehicle, said comprising:

a fuel dispenser including:

- fuel delivery hardware for delivering fuel to a vehicle from a storage tank;
- a user interface for facilitating purchase of fuel delivered to the vehicle and music for playback in the vehicle;
- a music database containing a plurality of music selections for purchase via user interface at said fuel dispenser; and
- means for transferring music purchased at said user interface of said fuel dispenser in a digital format from said music database to the vehicle for subsequent playback in the vehicle.

47. A method of purchasing music for use in a vehicle during a fueling transaction, said method comprising:

- displaying a plurality of music selections for purchase at a fuel dispenser interface;
- receiving a customer selection for at least one of said plurality of music selections at the
- 5 fuel dispenser interface;
- delivering fuel to a vehicle;
- accounting for the purchase of fuel delivered to the vehicle and the customer selection for the at least one of said plurality of music selections; and
- providing the at least one music selection corresponding to the customer selection in a digital format that is conducive for subsequent playback in the vehicle.